



# CITY OF LODI

## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Woodlake Little League Proposal – Implication Regarding Joint-Use Agreement Between Lodi Unified School District and City of Lodi

MEETING DATE: September 17, 1997

PREPARED BY: Parks and Recreation Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council not support the request of Mr. Bill Spencer to develop a long term agreement for use of Woodbridge Middle School and the creation of Woodlake Little League with the Lodi Unified School District.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Lodi Unified School District (LUSD) contacted City staff to apprise the City of a proposal from the Woodlake Little League to improve the grounds a Woodbridge Middle School. Subsequently, the School Board agreed to defer final decision on this matter pending an evaluation of the impact on the Booster of Boys/Girls Sports (BOBS) program and general City use of the facilities. The BOBS and the Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, September 10, 1997 to discuss the potential impact of the proposal.

Both the BOBS (16-0 vote) and Parks and Recreation Commission (5-0 vote) recommend that the City Council not support Mr. Bill Spencer's proposal to create a long term agreement of property use at Woodbridge Middle School and the development of the Woodlake Little League.

BOBS and Parks and Recreation Commission sited the following:

- This proposal would significantly impact already severely crowded practice and game facilities at both school and city facilities.
- The concept by LUSD of creating a maintenance program that would pull school facilities out of use for rest periods, thereby further impacting available facilities for youth sport programs seeking practice and game sites.
- The need to address current and past joint-use agreements between LUSD and City of Lodi, improvement of facilities for both parties, and sound working relationships without interrupting priority uses of City and School District properties.
- The need to support long standing City programs that offer across-the-board unrestricted participation and opportunities for all children within the LUSD boundaries.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager

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- The need to continually support BOBS willingness to put in thousands of hours of volunteer services by over 1,000 active volunteers; their Board of Directors which oversees an annual operating budget of \$300,000, fundraising efforts which generate \$100,000+ each year; programs and their sponsors which serve 4,000 participants annually. It should be noted that neither the BOBS nor City staff were approached in 1997 with a need to form a national little league program.
- To realize that, as understood by BOBS, the National Little League Baseball District Eight (Morada, Kennedy, and Foothill leagues) serves the LUSD boundaries. Any young person currently residing within the LUSD boundaries wishing to play in the National Little League organization has an opportunity to do so without the need to create another league in the Lodi area.

FUNDING: None.



Ron Williamson  
Parks and Recreation Director

RW/sb

cc: Parks and Recreation Commission  
Booster of Boys/Girls Sports  
Tom Alexander, Recreation Supervisor